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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics
United States Department of Agriculture and State
Agricultural Colleges, Cooperating

ORGANIZATION AND RESULTS OF BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK

NORTHERN AND WESTERN STATES

1919

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and

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Contribution from the States Relations Service
A. C. TRUE, Director

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BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK is a positive force in rural development to-day. Club members, under competent direction, have proved their ability to render efficient service toward raising the standard of farming and home making. Communities which have seen the results of club work desire it. An increasing number of counties are asking for it. The State colleges of agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture recognize its importance as a direct agency both for promoting better agriculture and home life and for maintaining the interest of farm youth in rural life. Relatively few of the farm boys and girls are now being reached. The usefulness of club work should stimulate its extension as rapidly as possible to the great body of rural boys and girls.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. Meredith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "M" and a trailing flourish.

Secretary of Agriculture.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK, 1919.

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OBJECT OF BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK.

The object of boys' and girls' club work is to help make rural life more attractive and prosperous by enlisting the best thought and efforts of the young people of each community in making it so, since it has been found that such work brings about an immediate improvement of agricultural and home-making methods and practices and affords an assurance for the future by training boys and girls for the time when they may farm and make homes themselves. It benefits not only the individual but the community as a whole.



DEMONSTRATION AS A MEDIUM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

Demonstration is the medium through which this improvement is brought about. By putting into practical operation the methods and practices which science and experience indicate to be the most desirable, club members have been able to raise community standards in a single year. Moreover, the practice of such methods

by club members is assurance that when the young people grow to manhood and womanhood they will continue to follow their early training and experience, that they will be ready to adopt new ideas, will know how to avail themselves of the proper sources of information, and will develop not only into better farmers and home makers but also into better citizens. As an outgrowth of the local club and its participation in community affairs, a community consciousness is developed which brings about close cooperation and more effective effort.

ORGANIZATION FOR CONDUCTING CLUB WORK.

That demonstrations by boys and girls might be made most effective, the organization of the forces involved has been developed gradually. In many counties the extension organizations are still undergoing adjustment. The characteristic features of the present scheme of organization in most of the Northern and Western States are as follows:

1. Under the Smith-Lever Act of May, 1914, the United States Department of Agriculture and each of the 33 State colleges of agriculture are cooperating in the conduct of the work.

2. There is an extension division with a director in charge in each State, representing the State college of agriculture and the Federal Department of Agriculture jointly.

3. Each extension division organizes and directs work in agriculture and home economics with men, women, and boys and girls. It places a State leader in charge of each of these three lines as organization specialist. It employs State specialists in subject matter for different phases of agriculture and home economics, who are responsible for the information carried to adults and young people.

4. County agents are employed jointly by the State college of agriculture, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the county. There may be a county agricultural agent, a county home demonstration agent, and a county club agent.

5. Most of the counties which have one, two, or all three of these agents have also an organization of the people in the county through which extension work is conducted. These organizations cooperate financially with the State college of agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture; in nearly all the States county commissioners appropriate funds through the county extension organizations.

6. The county extension organization, usually known as the farm bureau, determines, with the extension service, the problems of the farms and homes in the communities and in the county, the best way

of meeting the problems, and who of its members shall lead in doing this work. Thus a program of work is the basis of organization.

7. The county organization, through its delegated committeemen or project leaders, finds a solution or partial solution of each difficulty by carrying out suitable demonstrations with men, women, and boys and girls.

8. The membership is open to all rural people and is usually composed of interested men, women, and boys and girls.

9. The community project leader, having enlisted the boys and girls interested in and suited to the kind of demonstrations they undertake, usually helps them organize a local club in order that the demonstrations they conduct may reinforce one another, and that there may be opportunity for play as well as work.

10. The county club agent works with the county and community project leaders in assisting club members in their activities.

11. In counties where there are no farm-bureau organizations of the "family type," local volunteer leaders are engaged to conduct boys' and girls' club work under the direction of the county club agent. Farmers and housewives are consulted to determine the lines of club work best suited to the needs of the community.

12. In counties having no county club agent, the county agricultural agent or home demonstration agent conducts club work with a limited number of boys and girls, according to the plan of the State club leader.

FINANCE AND LEADERSHIP.

The year 1919 was one of readjustment from a war-time basis to one of peace. During the war immediate increased production was the primary object rather than a gradual, permanent improvement of methods. The production of food and clothing took precedence over the educational development of the people. Immediate national needs were paramount.

There was considerable reorganization of extension work following the withdrawal June 30, 1919, of the Federal emergency funds which had been available during the war. These funds made it possible to place county club agents in more than 400 counties, but their withdrawal caused a considerable reduction in the total number of agents employed following July 1, 1919. The appropriation of the emergency fund, while strictly a war measure, made it possible to show the people of the counties the value of county club agents. The favorable impression created has been expressed in increased appropriation by the counties and the States to maintain this work. Another evidence of the demand for this work is shown in the decrease in the number of part-time leaders employed and in the marked

increase in number of full-time leaders employed. There were 137 permanent county club agents on December 31, 1919.

While the financial support of the work from the Department of Agriculture decreased 75 per cent, the actual decrease in total amount was only 24 per cent, because the counties more than doubled their appropriations. The following table shows the readjustment of funds from a war-time to a peace-time basis:

Readjustment of funds from a war-time to a peace-time basis.

Funds.	1918-19 ¹	1919-20 ²
United States Department of Agriculture.....	\$102,011.00	\$104,449.00
Federal Smith-Lever.....	98,838.00	212,458.00
State Smith-Lever.....	64,552.00	134,431.00
Federal emergency.....	371,665.00	.....
State and college.....	160,112.00	38,896.00
Counties.....	62,060.00	141,590.00
Other sources.....	23,583.00	35,655.00
Total.....	882,821.00	667,509.00

¹ Used.

² Allotted.

In the 33 Northern and Western States, December 31, 1919, there were 27 State club leaders, 61 assistant State club leaders, 137 county club agents, 60 part-time temporary leaders, and 10,064 volunteer community leaders. This supervisory force conducted demonstration work with 310,115 boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 20 years.

COUNTY EXTENSION ORGANIZATION.

Though the war gave great impetus to the development of county farm bureaus, a substantial growth has taken place since the war from the standpoint of number of organizations, membership, and effectiveness. During 1919 there was an increase in the number using the family type of organization.

In the early development of extension work the relation of boys' and girls' club work to the adult extension work was rather indefinite. Some farm bureaus appointed county committeemen to advise with club leaders. The next advance came in several States where the type of demonstrations conducted by young people was determined by the needs of the community as expressed in the programs of work of the county organization. And finally the third step was taken when boys and girls received leadership from the farm-bureau committeemen as did their elders. With this came membership for the young people. During the year the complete plan of the family type of organization came to function in more counties than in any previous year. The county extension organization represented by the farm bureau is directed by mature men and women, who desire that the work shall go on and develop as new leadership is required. Boys' and girls' club work has been looked upon by these leaders

as a training school for the future farm-bureau members and community leaders. Already the club work is producing community project leaders and executive committeemen. The club work assures a trained and efficient leadership for the county extension organization.



FIG. 1.—The extension specialist finds club work an effective agency through which to disseminate information and establish new methods.

LOCAL CLUB ORGANIZATION.

More clubs were established on a permanent rather than a seasonal basis in 1919 than in previous years. Of 16,395 clubs in 1919, 3,447, or 21 per cent, were standard clubs, having 12 months' programs for meetings, putting on team demonstrations for the public, and otherwise functioning more fully for the good of the community. In 1919 there were 10,064 community leaders who took charge of clubs voluntarily. In other words, for each 30 boys and girls there was a local adult to direct their demonstration activities.

COORDINATION OF FORCES.

In 1919 local, county, and State club leaders helped to develop the community program of work. The result was further coordination of all extension forces. Participation in the construction of sound county organizations, through which all lines of extension work were conducted, developed broader conceptions and happier relations. In 1919 there was considerable increase in the number of extension subject-matter specialists who extended their particular interests through boys' and girls' clubs. Such a relationship has strengthened

the demonstrations of the young people; for without sound, reliable information demonstrations must of necessity become uncertain in value. On the other hand, the specialists realize that to establish better practices quickly the clubs offer a choice field. The following is a typical farm-bureau project used by a community project leader, in which the activities of the county extension agents, the specialist, and the farm-bureau project leaders are linked together in carrying out one piece of work. It illustrates the tendency in extension work toward close coordination.

GLENDALE TOWNSHIP.

Project: Hogs.

Object: To bring about the raising of better and more profitable hogs in Glendale Township.

Goal set for 1920:

I. Five feeding demonstrations, using self-feeders.

II. One purebred sow and litter club.

Project leader will:

Dates of work.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| I. 1. Make list of purebred hog breeders in township, number and kind of purebred hogs raised. | March 1-2. |
| 2. Secure cooperation of five farmers to conduct feeding demonstrations and talk over with each methods of the demonstration. | March 5-6. |
| 3. Assist demonstrators in starting demonstrations. | |
| 4. Call demonstration meetings at suitable times. | |
| 5. Report progress to secretary of township committee and to county agent. | Last day of each month. |
| II. 1. Furnish list to county club leader of prospective club members. | March 4. |
| 2. Assist county club leader in organizing and assume local leadership of club following plan furnished by county club leader. | |
| 3. Report progress to secretary and to county club leader. | Last day of each month. |

Signed _____.

County agent will:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| I. 1. Furnish complete instructions to project leader for starting and conducting demonstrations. | March 1. |
| 2. Furnish plans for self-feeders. | March 1. |
| 3. Visit project leader and demonstrations at least twice during year. | Two visits during year. |
| 4. Publish results. | At least quarterly. |
| 5. If possible, attend meeting relative to demonstrations. | |
| II. 1. Assist project leader in organizing club. | |
| 2. Assist in securing stock. | |
| 3. Furnish all necessary instructions, as in feeding, care and management, etc. | |
| 4. Arrange for club tour. | |
| 5. Assist in marketing produce. | |

Signed _____.

Extension specialist will:

1. Furnish county agent plans for building self-feeders and instructions regarding planning and conducting the demonstrations. March 1.
2. If desired, spend at least one day in this township or in some other township in the county assisting with the demonstration work.
3. Accompany boys and girls on club tour. January 1.

Signed _____.

DEMONSTRATION RESULTS.

In every rural community there are problems affecting the welfare of all the people in it. Extension work helps the people to meet these problems successfully by carrying out a system of demonstrations that show rather than merely tell. The boys and girls, therefore, conduct demonstrations on the home farms with crops, live stock, and in home economics, all devised to meet community needs. Besides the boys and girls give public demonstrations as teams at community gatherings, fairs, and wherever farm people gather. These teams consist of two, three, or four members especially trained for such work. Treating seed potatoes for disease, testing seed corn, docking lambs, canning, and bread making are examples of the subjects presented.

The data that follow indicate clearly, first, the magnitude of junior demonstration work and, second, its effectiveness. The "community problems" and "demonstrations conducted," as indicated in each project outline, represent the expression of the communities in the aggregate. There were other problems and demonstrations in each line of work which are not represented here because they occur as isolated instances. There were other problems that the boys and girls did not concern themselves with because of unsuitability. In most cases each club member demonstrated several phases of a project, according to the desires of the community.

Under close supervision of county club agents and community leaders, it is possible to secure fairly accurate and complete records from club members. In a small percentage of cases yields have been estimated or inaccurately measured. But the figures herein, giving yields or production, do not include demonstrations where records were incomplete or lacking, so that considered from the number involved the results given can be considered conservative.

CROPS.

BEANS.

The comparatively small enrollment in bean-growing work indicates the limited number of communities which have need for such demonstrations or which recognize the need. Nevertheless, in this limited

number valuable work was conducted. In New Mexico the boys gave special emphasis to selecting seed by hand in the field. They were able to show a decided contrast between beans grown from selected seed and from unselected seed.

Community problems: Mixed, low-yielding seed; unproductive soil.

Demonstrations conducted: Seed selection, better methods of cultivation, building up fertility of soils.

Number of demonstrators: 379 (completed).

Average size of plat: 0.34 acre.

Value of product: \$10,595.

Number of clubs: 42.

Bushels produced: 2,237.

Team demonstrations: Four teams of boys and girls were trained to show through public demonstrations how to apply better methods in bean culture. They used the results secured in bean production by the club as evidence of the profitableness of such methods. One of the things demonstrated was the hand selection of seed.

That club members are increasing the average yield is shown by the fact that the club members' average yields in California, Michigan, and New Mexico were 25.9, 20.3, and 13.9, respectively, while the corresponding average yields for each of the States were 11.3, 13, and 7.5, respectively. Bean-club demonstrations were carried out to a less extent in Colorado, Idaho, and New York.

The report of Henry E. Bjork, Kent City, Mich., illustrates the work on introduction, careful selection, and standardization of better seed, common to bean-club work. He says:

The object of our bean club was to introduce better seed beans into the community, as beans are one of the main crops here. It was also decided that we should all raise Early Wonder beans if possible. I bought my seed beans from a near-by farmer, paying \$7.50 a bushel. I picked them by hand, taking out all imperfect beans so as to plant only the most perfect seed.

CORN.

The total area in corn demonstrations was 6,866 acres. The average yield per acre for corn-club demonstrations in 1919 for nine States exceeded 70 bushels per acre. The average for corn-club demonstrations in the 31 States was 60.5. Comparing this figure with 34.1 bushels per acre, the average for the total corn production in the same 31 States, it becomes evident that the boys and girls are actually increasing yields by improved methods.

Community problems: Poor seed, unproductive soil.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Growing acclimated seed of one or two standard varieties, (2) selection of seed, (3) testing seed corn, (4) storing seed corn, (5) fertilizing soil—rotation of crops.

Number of demonstrators: 3,500 (completed).

Number of clubs: 564.

Average size of plat: 1.96 acres.

Bushels produced: 415,506.

*Value of product:*¹ \$539,163.

Team demonstrations: Besides the 3,500 individual demonstrations, 48 teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations in seed testing, field selection of seed, and the preparation and use of corn products.

There is evidence that the results of corn-club demonstrations are being accepted and put into practice by farmers in communities



FIG. 2.—Corn-club members use only carefully selected seed.

where the demonstrations are made. R. A. Moore, corn extension specialist, University of Wisconsin, says he is convinced that Wisconsin's high corn yield of recent years, as compared with the yields in several other corn States, is due largely to the fact that Wisconsin boys and girls for 10 years have been producing high-grade seed and distributing it to farmers throughout the State.

Colorado boys and girls during the past two or three years have brought about marked improvement through demonstrations and the selling of seed from registered fields. Boulder County offers a good example. The movement for better seed corn began there several years ago through boys' and girls' clubs. "Minnesota No. 13" was adopted. In November, 1919, the county farm bureau conducted its annual corn show, at which the boys and girls exhibited 22 half-

¹ Part seed corn.

bushel crates of seed corn from registered fields. They also exhibited 10 ears each, in open competition with the exhibits of 32 farmers. In the auction following the exhibit the first prize ear brought \$13 and the first prize crate \$9. Both were produced by club members. The farmers were willing to pay practically twice as much for seed from registered fields as for other corn.

The annual report of boys' and girls' club work for North Dakota contains the following:

Ninety members report a production of 3,642 bushels mature corn, or 38.2 bushels per acre for the average (5.2 bushels more than the average for the State). The great value of home grown and tested seed was again demonstrated conclusively this year in the increased yields of better corn grown by those who were fortunate in securing home-grown seed. More than 1,000 bushels of seed corn were saved.

The following table compares reported club yields with State yields:

Comparison of State average and club members' average yields of corn.

[Bushels per acre.]

State.	Club demon- strators.	Club aver- age.	State aver- age.	Differ- ence.	State.	Club demon- strators.	Club aver- age.	State aver- age.	Differ- ence.
Arizona.....	8	35	33	+ 2	Nebraska.....	23	34	26	+ 8
California.....	21	14	33	-19	New Hampshire..	14	62	50	+12
Colorado.....	305	26	17	+ 9	New Jersey.....	10	72	40	+32
Connecticut.....	25	73	60	+13	New Mexico.....	23	46	30	+16
Delaware.....	20	55	30	+25	New York.....	271	.....	43	(1)
Idaho.....	31	67	35	+32	North Dakota....	90	38	33	+ 5
Illinois.....	51	34	35	- 1	Ohio.....	31	78	44	+34
Indiana.....	626	70	37	+33	Oregon.....	43	74	26	+48
Iowa.....	272	66	41	+25	Pennsylvania....	85	.....	47	(1)
Kansas.....	45	15	16	- 1	Rhode Island....	40	35	45	-10
Maine.....	147	63	55	+ 8	South Dakota....	208	42	28	+14
Massachusetts....	61	82	60	+22	Utah.....	8	.....	18	(1)
Michigan.....	92	95	39	+56	Vermont.....	25	49	53	- 4
Minnesota.....	204	67	40	+27	Washington.....	11	35	36	- 1
Missouri.....	121	40	27	+13	Wisconsin.....	438	70	47	+23
Montana.....	151	12	14	- 2					

¹ Club average not given.

POTATOES.

The total acreage for 28 States in which such work was conducted amounted to 1,628 acres. The average yield per acre for potato-club demonstrations was 168 bushels, while the average for the same States for the same years for all potato production was 93.46. In all but one of the States the average yield secured by club members exceeds the average for the State.

Community problems: Disease and insect pests, poor seed, unproductive soils.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Planting standard varieties of seed, (2) treating seed for disease, (3) spraying, (4) hill selection, (5) fertilizing soil, (6) marketing.

Number of demonstrators: 5,107.

Number of clubs: 710.

Average size of plat: 0.32 acre.

Bushels produced: 273,676.

Value of product: \$366,307.

Team demonstrations: 88 teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations to show how to practice sound methods of potato production, and used the results secured by the club or community to prove the desirability of these practices. Treating for disease and hill selection were the two most important phases demonstrated.

The following table gives a comparison between average yields of potatoes by States and by club members in the corresponding States. The differences in yields indicate clearly the demonstrational value of club work.

State yields versus reported club yields of potatoes.

[Bushels per acre.]

State.	Club demonstrators.	Club average.	State average.	Difference.	State.	Club demonstrators.	Club average.	State average.	Difference.
California.....	33	133	129	+ 7	New Jersey.....	4	180	96	+ 84
Colorado.....	82	70	120	- 50	New Mexico.....	5	-----	45	(¹)
Connecticut.....	30	144	70	+ 74	New York.....	855	162	109	+ 53
Delaware.....	4	130	83	+ 47	North Dakota....	400	102	63	+ 39
Idaho.....	99	151	150	+ 1	Ohio.....	36	118	62	+ 56
Illinois.....	126	97	52	+ 45	Oregon.....	38	127	94	+ 33
Indiana.....	76	100	44	+ 56	Pennsylvania.....	149	-----	100	(¹)
Maine.....	124	254	240	+ 14	Rhode Island....	50	200	85	+115
Massachusetts....	97	129	90	+ 39	South Dakota....	69	201	50	+151
Michigan.....	203	92	88	+ 4	Utah.....	39	152	141	+ 11
Minnesota.....	722	264	87	+177	Vermont.....	55	300	125	+175
Montana.....	343	67	60	+ 7	Washington.....	90	148	125	+ 23
Nebraska.....	30	60	55	+ 5	Wisconsin.....	1,244	187	94	+ 93
New Hampshire..	84	199	120	+ 79	Wyoming.....	24	146	80	+ 66

¹ Club average not given.

NOTE.—In States where there are only a few demonstrations, the figures above have small value for comparison, inasmuch as the locality where the few members reside may not represent average conditions in the State.

The following account of successful club work with potatoes comes from Presque Isle, Me.:

For the past two seasons the Young Farmers' Association, composed of 40 farm boys, has marketed each year two carloads of certified seed potatoes of the Green Mountain variety. These potatoes were grown under the conditions set by the farm bureau and met the specifications for marketing set by the State department of agriculture. They were marketed through the medium of a cooperative exchange, with the understanding that they were to be sold only to parties who were interested in using this seed for demonstration purposes. Complete instructions were sent by the club to the various purchasers, stating the conditions under which they were grown and offering suggestions for keeping, planting, cultivating, and harvesting, in order to get profitable yields.

SORGHUM.

Sorghum demonstrations were limited to Kansas, New Mexico, and California. The average production per member was 2,127 pounds.

Community problems: Inferior seed, poor methods of tillage, lack of soil fertility.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Use of purebred seed, (2) selection of seed, (3) desirable methods of handling soils.

Number of demonstrators: 185.

Number of clubs: 29.

Average size of plot: 0.55 acre.

Average yield per acre: 2,127 pounds.

*Value of product:*² \$6,622.

California, Kansas, and New Mexico are the States in which sorghum-club demonstrations were conducted, and in each State the average yield of club members exceeded that of the entire State.

SUGAR BEETS.

Club demonstrations in sugar-beet growing are most prominent and widespread in communities new to this crop. In such places there is special need for introducing good practices because of the farmers' unfamiliarity with sugar-beet culture. Sugar companies, especially in the West, have been eager to distribute high-grade seed among boys and girls, and even to assist in field follow-up work, because in this manner good practices can be quickly established.

Community problems: Methods of cultivation and irrigation, lack of soil fertility, profit compared to other crops.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Preparation of seed bed, (2) proper cultivation and irrigation, (3) cost accounting to show profit compared to other crops.

Number of demonstrators: 211.

Number of clubs: 40.

Pounds produced: 4,602,376.

Value of product: \$23,716.

In the older sugar-beet sections many communities are finding a tendency to discontinue sugar-beet growing to take up other crops, so that the need has arisen for demonstrations, which through accurate records show the actual cost of production, thus disproving inaccurate assumptions. The boys and girls of Hooper, Wilson, and Slaterville, Weber County, Utah are carrying out this type of work.

GARDEN.

Some of the emergency funds were used during the war to stimulate the production of food by boys and girls through home gardens. It was not planned to make this work demonstrational, but to use

² Does not include Kansas.

demonstration methods in maintaining interest and enthusiasm. A permanent interest was aroused, and in 1919 the applications for membership were greater than the organization was capable of handling. Both canning and gardening clubs were found in nearly all communities. The State and county leaders in cooperation with the local leaders gave considerable assistance to the boys and girls in suburban communities.

The total acreage of club gardens was 661.638 square rods, or 4.135 acres. Besides this, in 11 States 431,432 boys and girls grew as many "Liberty Gardens" with only production in mind, omitting the demonstration feature. Liberty Gardens were a "left-over" of the war, and have been discontinued as such since 1919.

Community problems: Garden insects and diseases, lack of variety, lack of quantity.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Methods and formulæ for sprays, poison bait, protection, etc.; (2) growing greater variety of products adapted to locality; (3) increasing size of gardens.

Number of demonstrators: 77,340.

Number of clubs: 3,794.

Average size of plot: 8.5 square rods.

Value of products: \$786,477.

Team demonstrations: 219 teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations to show how to practice better methods of gardening. These demonstrations included seed testing, spraying for disease and insect pests, grading of products, transplanting.

There can be no doubt that through club demonstrations (77,340 carried out in the 33 States) gardening received great impetus. The acreage and range of varieties were increased; practices for combating insects and disease and for securing better yields became more widespread, and better methods of marketing were used, all of which resulted in improved health to thousands of families because of better-balanced rations and physical exercise.

LIVE STOCK.

Live-stock demonstrations were conducted with baby bees, dairy animals, sheep, and swine. A total of 33,085 boys and girls engaged in these lines.

BABY BEEF.

In Minnesota 613 club members completed baby-beef demonstrations, in Indiana 201, in Iowa 154, in Michigan 114, in Ohio 105. The work was carried on in 15 States, 10 of which were in the corn belt.

Community problems: Lack of economy in production.

Demonstrations conducted: Feeding, care, selection of animals, and increased returns from high-grade or purebred stock.

Number of demonstrators: 1,494.

Number of clubs: 187.

Number of animals managed: 1,583.

Pounds of beef produced: 845,428.

Team demonstrations: 25 teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations in selection, feeding, and care of beef animals. The results secured by them in beef production were offered as proof of the desirability of the practices advocated.

Of the 174 entries made at Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, this year, in the boys' and girls' baby-beef class, 121 were sold at auction and 2 at private sale. The total weight of the 123 calves sold was 124,220 pounds, the average price being \$18.30 per hundredweight, or a total sale price of \$22,733, with an average weight for each calf of 1,018 pounds. The remaining calves were sent to the Interstate Fair, Sioux City, Iowa, September 15-20, and club members took home with them from the fair several animals of good type to be



FIG. 3.—Laying the foundation for future success as a live-stock breeder.

fed out for exhibition at the International Livestock Show at Chicago in December, 1919. The Iowa Agricultural College at Ames purchased two calves from Calvin and Cleo Kerns, of Poweshiek County, Iowa, for \$650.

DAIRY.

Wisconsin had 584 dairy-club members, New York 322, Pennsylvania 287, Minnesota 224, Missouri 175. Twenty-three States conducted such work. There were two general types of work to meet community needs, one involving purebred or high-grade calves, which had for its main purpose the introduction of better stock; the other, involving bred heifers or cows, which purposed not only the introduction of better stock, but also to demonstrate the best methods of handling for maximum milk production. This often brought in milk testing, keeping records of feed and of milk production, and made possible an immediate income to the member. In some instances members as a group brought in registered sires, or joined a "bull circle." In some communities members joined or formed cow-testing associations.

Community problems: Unprofitable cows, unsuitable methods of feeding and care.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Economy in keeping purebreds or high-grades, (2) desirable feeding methods, (3) keeping of production records to eliminate unprofitable cows.

Number of demonstrators: 2,409.

Number of clubs: 315.

Number of animals managed: 2,494.

Number of calves held for second year: 1,577.

Value of stock: \$291,440.



FIG. 4.—Through dairy-club work productive purebreds have replaced scrub stock in many communities.

Team demonstrations: Four² teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations. The selection of good stock and milk testing were the more important subjects of demonstrations.

In the three years that the dairy-club work has been conducted in Nevada, 24 members have qualified as cow testers. These young men and women have been a great help in herd-record work and official testing in the State. Those who do the work well are able to earn \$3 a day and their expenses as official testers.

² This figure does not include 30 live-stock demonstration teams in North Dakota.

The following story is told by Howard Hunts, of Arizona :

At the time I joined the club we were milking 15 cows, and being interested in the dairy business, I wished to learn the practical ways of keeping records on cows, and to find the cows that ate the most feed and gave the least profits, as well as the ones that yielded more butter fat at less cost. By keeping my records as accurately as possible I found that three or four of the cows were profitable, but that the herd as a whole was not profitable. So we went to selling them. Now we have four cows.

In dairy demonstrations the greatest good of the work performed to date is yet to come. The importation of good stock into communities is laying a foundation that future generations will appreciate.

The Grove City community, in Pennsylvania, began in 1915 an unusual development along dairy lines as the result of the establishment there of a creamery under the supervision of the Dairy Division of the United States Department of Agriculture. With a satisfactory market provided, the bank was willing to help bring in purebred cattle which were sold to members of the boys' and girls' dairy club, with the understanding that the members would use them as foundation animals for purebred herds. The bank agreed to wait, if necessary, for payment of the notes until the heifers freshened. At the end of three years but two heifers had been disposed of by sale. In several instances the club animal was the first purebred on the farm, and the interest of the boy or girl resulted in winning the father over to purebreds entirely. The fact that the boy had this purebred animal also made the father more kindly disposed toward the bull-association movement for the introduction of better sires in the community.

Practically all the members have their animals under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry and the State Live Stock Sanitary Board for accrediting as free from tuberculosis. Many of them are entered in the cow-testing association, and all are keeping production records. Many of the club members have separate accounts at the creamery and their own bank accounts.

SHEEP.

In Wyoming 264 boys and girls carried on work with sheep, in Wisconsin 183, in Utah 121, in Minnesota 106, in Montana 99. In 25 States there were sheep problems of sufficient importance to warrant boys and girls undertaking demonstrations.

Community problems: Poor stock, not enough farms raising sheep, improper care of ewes, saving and raising orphan range lambs.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Introduction and care of high-grade and purebred ewes, (2) care and feeding of orphan range lambs.

Number of demonstrators: 1,632.

Number of clubs: 296.

Number of sheep managed: 7,538.

*Value of animals and wool sheared:*⁴ \$124,490.

Team demonstrations: 28 teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations to show how to care for and handle sheep. Among the demonstrations were selection of animals, shearing, docking, and castrating, and treatment for ticks.

Usually communities find that the need in the sheep industry is for more farms to have small high-grade flocks, rather than to increase the size of existing flocks. Accordingly, through boys' and girls' club work, sheep of excellent breeding have been placed on many farms where previously there had been none. In several western range States the boys and girls went into the hills and received from the herdsmen the orphan or "bum" lambs which would die for want of care, so that many farms now have small flocks of sheep which live largely on farm wastes. It is but one more step to bring in purebred sires and improve this range stock.

A Wyoming club member writes:

The first time I went to get bum lambs I got 10. I put them in a burlap sack, cut a hole in the sack for them to put their heads out, and then hung the sack on the horn of the saddle. In this way I brought three or four lambs to our camp at a time. I took them home from camp with the horses and buggy. I brought 9 home the second time, and I brought 3 or 4 down at a time after that until I had 37. Five have died, so I have 32 left.

Unusual care and patience, especially during the first few days, is required to raise orphan lambs.

The county club leader of New Haven County, Conn., thought he saw in the half million acres of rough, rocky, hilly land an opportunity for club work to repopulate the county with sheep. One hundred lambs were distributed among about 60 boys and girls, the cost being about \$10 a lamb. The lambs were carefully looked after by the boys and girls. Nearly all of them wintered over in excellent condition. In the late fall three registered Shropshire rams were secured from the Connecticut Agricultural College. These rams were stationed at different places in the county, where about 50 ewe lambs were bred.

Last May shearing demonstrations were held and some exceptionally good shearers were developed among the boys and girls. Many grown people witnessed the demonstrations. Some of the shearers became so expert that a team of shearers was selected to demonstrate at the Eastern States Exposition at Springfield. This team took the gold medal as first prize for sheep demonstration. As a result of the

⁴ Wool clips of 14 States not reported.

sheep-club work many farmers of New Haven County started small flocks in the spring of 1919. Practically all of the 1918 club members of this county are still enrolled in the work, and an additional 100 boys and girls have been enrolled during 1919. The New Haven County Boys' and Girls' Sheep Club slogan is, "Ten thousand sheep in 1923."

SWINE.

All of the 33 States conducted swine-club demonstrations, usually of two kinds—with one or more young pigs, and with a sow and litter. From the standpoint of number of demonstrations, the following are the five highest States: Missouri 1,476, Indiana 1,358, South Dakota 1,268, Ohio, 1,039, and California, 844.

Community problems: Unprofitable stock, improper rations, poor housing, disease, and lice.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Economy in purebred or high-grade swine; (2) feeds and methods of feeding for growing pigs, fattening, breeding stock; (3) prevention and treatment of diseases and parasites; (4) building and use of good houses, sanitation.

Number of demonstrators: 13,999.

Number of clubs: 1,951.

Pounds of pork produced: 1,953,867.

Number of animals managed: 28,481.

Number of pigs sold: 7,725.

Value of animals: \$1,321,581.

Team demonstrations: 171 teams of boys and girls were trained. Each gave several public demonstrations to show how to practice methods which experience has shown to be most profitable. The demonstrations included preparation of feed rations, selection of breeding animals, making a self-feeder.

One of the most significant facts is that 7,725 pigs were sold by club members to neighboring farms, because it is a definite index of the influence boys and girls are exerting toward the general introduction of better swine; but this number is without doubt small in comparison with the total number of purebred and high-grade hogs purchased by farmers as a result of junior demonstrations. Self-feeders have been introduced in many communities by club members. The latter have also shown the value of succulent pasture balanced with concentrates, and have been a leading force in the war against the "razor back."

Three counties in California, El Dorado, Shasta, and Fresno, organized a swine-breeders' department of the farm bureau, consisting of club members in either the sow-and-litter or pig-feeding project. Interest in purebred stock has spread from the boys to their parents.

bringing the realization that purebred stock, especially purebred sires, is more profitable. There has been such demand for better stock that it has been difficult to supply even the club boys making requests. In El Dorado County the boys borrowed \$592 from the local bank in March, 1918; in August, 1919, an inventory of stock sold and on hand showed a value of \$5,826. Eight gilts exhibited at the State fairs by these boys in September, 1919, brought an average price of \$56.50 each. In some cases auction sales are carried on by club members. At Lemoore, Kings County, 38 animals brought a total of \$2,751, or an average of \$72 per head. In Fresno County

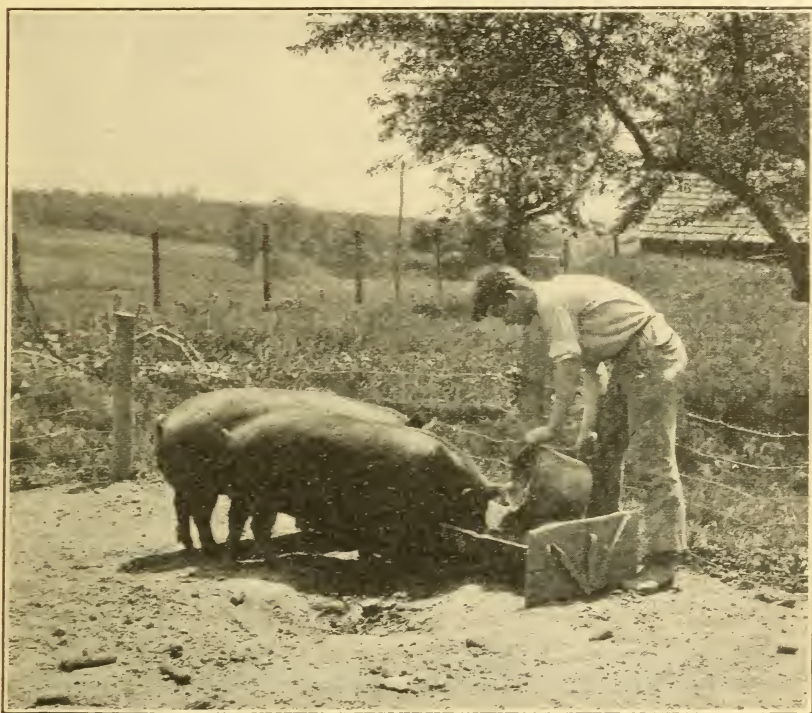


FIG. 5.—Pig-club members show neighbors how to secure profits from swine.

there were 29 head of purebred Poland-China hogs sold which brought a total of \$1,981.50, or an average price of \$68.30 per head.

From Lee County, Ill., comes this report:

The club has very noticeably affected the interest in purebred hogs through the county. Not only have parents become more interested through the work of the boys and girls, but several of the young folks who have gotten a start with one purebred pig have kept it to raise spring litters, and in one or two cases the club members have practically been given the management of their fathers' herds.

POULTRY.

Wisconsin led in poultry-club membership with 2,388. Then followed Missouri with 2,159, Nebraska with 2,065, New York with 1,811, and Iowa with 1,700. All 33 States conducted poultry work, and it proved as popular with girls as with boys.

Community problems: Lack of economy in egg production and selling.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Value of keeping purebred fowls, (2) improved feeding methods, (3) early chicks, (4) culling unprofitable hens, (5) proper housing, (6) prevention and eradication of diseases and pests.

Number of demonstrators: 12,135.

Number of clubs: 1,655.

Number of chicks raised: 210,652.

Number dozen eggs produced: 190,204.

Number laying hens managed: 34,260.

Value of stock: \$392,016.

Team demonstrations: 113 teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations to show how to practice the methods involved in this line of work, and used the results secured in poultry production by the club or community to substantiate the fact that these practices are desirable. The demonstrations included culling the slacker hen, making of equipment, treatment for lice and mites, killing and pressing, selection of stock, and grading of eggs.

Purebred fowls were introduced on many farms that had known only the scrub chicken. In many communities one breed only is being raised as a result of the club members starting the movement, thus simplifying production problems and establishing a reputation for the community.

The Goshen, \$1,000 Poultry Club, of Connecticut, has shown conclusively that proper methods bring good profits. Garry Miles had 110 hens in the contest. He paid out for feed, from November 1, 1918, to July 1, 1919, \$201.20, and in the eight months cleared \$275.20 above costs. His net profit in eight months was \$2.50 per bird. Sherman Ives had 56 hens and cleared \$204.75, making a net profit of \$3.65 per bird. Clarence Vail, with 104 birds, made a net profit of \$285.41, or \$2.74 per hen. These club demonstrators have received careful instruction from the college extension specialist. These boys were permitted to keep their fowls at the college, the year in which they attended college, thereby enabling them to pay their way from egg profits.

In the Goshen poultry club the members adopted and established rations, which experience had shown to be good. Poultry houses were remodeled for greater convenience of the owner and better

health of the chickens. Club members not only learned to cull their own flocks, but showed other owners of flocks how to do likewise. The most reliable methods of combating mites, lice, and diseases prevalent in the communities were demonstrated.

RABBIT.

In Oregon there were in 1919 1,025 rabbit club members; in Washington, 719; in New York, 585; in Idaho, 264; and in New Mexico, 143. Ten States engaged in this line to some extent.

Demonstrations conducted: Usually rabbit raising has been introduced by club members to meet the need for cheaper meat rather than to improve existing practices in the business, though the latter purpose is a factor. It is confined largely to small towns.

Number of demonstrators: 1,133.

Number of clubs: 210.

Number of animals raised: 14,608.

Value of animals: \$16,295.

Team demonstrations: Six teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations to show how to practice the methods of rabbit production, and used the results secured by the club or community to substantiate the fact that these practices are desirable. Killing and dressing and the making of equipment were some of the phases demonstrated.

HOME ECONOMICS.

BREAD.

Bread-club work was conducted in 17 States during the year, with Minnesota, Massachusetts, Montana, Kansas, and Missouri leading in membership. It afforded an entering wedge to home development.

Community problems: Poor quality home bread; insufficient amount used.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Use of desirable yeast, (2) use of bread mixer, (3) improved methods of bread making, (4) care of bread after baking, (5) use of left-over bread.

Number of demonstrators: 5,146 (completed).

Number of clubs: 683.

Number of loaves of bread baked: 210,373.

Value of bread baked: \$27,728.

Team demonstrations given by members: 1,215 teams of boys and girls gave 3,438 public demonstrations, with a total attendance of 44,425, to show how to make yeast and quick breads. In Minnesota alone 250 bread-making teams of three members each, representing 69 counties of the State, vied for local, county, and State honors. These demonstrations and exhibits given by winning teams have become one of the strong educational features of State fairs.

In Massachusetts, where there is a large foreign population, it was found that many of the people were on a small wage and eating unwholesome bread. The problem was evident, but work with the adults proved futile. During the winter, a dozen bread clubs were organized and worked industriously. The results were immediate. One 14-year-old girl alone made 16 loaves of bread weekly and taught bread making to the girls and women of eight other families.

An Illinois club leader writes:

If you could go with me into homes carelessly kept and see the scrupulous cleanliness these club girls use in their bread-making work, you would marvel.

Besides baking bread, club members are encouraged to "help mother" with the general baking. In fact many boys and girls since joining a club have assumed the bread making for the entire family. A Kansas girl writes:

I have made 583 bakings of club bread. There are 12 members in our family and all are at home. We have, besides, a hired man a part of the time. So you see we need a lot of bread.

A North Dakota girl writes:

Since I have learned to make bread, I have made the greater part of the family bread. Oftentimes it is necessary to wash clothes and make bread in the same day. It is pretty hard for mother to do both, so I make the bread.

There is an opportunity for profit or money-making in the bread club work. An Indiana girl baked 957 loaves of bread and sold 30 loaves a week to a hotel during the summer vacation, while many club members took orders for bread throughout the year.

What can be accomplished through the work of bread clubs, so far as spread of influence is concerned, can be judged perhaps from the following extract from a report of a large yeast company based on their sales over the United States:

In 1915 Minnesota stood fifth among the States in the production of home-made bread. For five years previous it had held this position. In 1915 the Minnesota bread clubs were organized. In 1916 Minnesota rose to third place, and in 1918 displaced Pennsylvania as first in the production of homemade bread, although Pennsylvania had held that position for years.

It seems fair to assume that the bread clubs were a leading factor in this achievement. It is not uncommon for boys to take a prominent part in bread clubs.

CANNING.

Thirty States enrolled canning club members in 1919. The five leading are: Minnesota, 2,964; Massachusetts, 1,283; Michigan, 1,281; Ohio, 1,087; and Colorado, 955.

Community problems: A simpler method of canning, more varied winter diet.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Cold-pack method of canning, (2) canning vegetables, (3) canning meats, (4) canning in tin, (5) use of the pressure cooker, (6) making jellies, (7) canning products for sale.

Number of demonstrators: 15,573 (completed).

Number of clubs: 2,458.

Products: 910,556 quarts canned-food products; 137,190 jars of jellies; 14,540 pounds of dried products.

Value of products: \$441,618.

Team demonstrations: 1,001 teams of boys and girls gave 6,169 public demonstrations, with a total attendance of 291,456. Canning of fruits, vegetables, and meats, and the making of jellies were some of the phases demonstrated.

A few years ago canning by the cold-pack method was unknown. As a direct result of canning-club demonstrations, it is the common method in the homes of the Northern and Western States. Canning clubs have brought about better canning equipment in the homes. They have introduced pressure cookers and other canners in thousands of homes, and have been the means of putting on the market improved tin-can sealers, glass jars, and rubber jar rings. The methods of canning taught by the clubs have been printed in many languages, and adopted in their entirety in Canada.

As a means of reducing the high cost of living and providing a varied and healthful winter diet, canning held its own in spite of the high price of sugar and the lack of patriotic stimulus. Although there was a decrease in the canning-club enrollment as compared with that of the previous year, there was a decided increase in the quantity of fruits, vegetables, and meats canned per member. Club leaders through the country reported a marked improvement in the quality of the work done. This has been due largely to the high standards resulting from a more extended experience and from the judging contests held in connection with exhibits at club meetings and community and county fairs.

The reports show that the market demand for home-canned products is greater than the supply. As a result many club members are now engaged in canning products for sale. Working as an organized club unit, they are selling their products cooperatively or canning collectively for individuals or institutions in their own and near-by communities. The financial returns from this source are giving many girls their first impetus toward the otherwise unattainable goal of a college education. In addition, the canning-club work through its intimate connection with the home problems of food, health, sanitation, labor, budgets, and marketing has been the means oftentimes of influencing girls to take the four years'

college course in home economics in order that they may become more efficient home makers.

It is not uncommon to hear of a club girl canning a side of pork, a quarter of beef, or a carcass of venison. Nor is it uncommon for a club girl to be recognized as an authority in canning, so far as the women of her community are concerned. From Boone County, Ill., the following report comes:

It is due to the canning club that a widespread knowledge of cold-pack canning is developing. The girls have taken over the entire canning in some homes. Then some have shown other people how to do it. The demand for products canned by girls has exceeded the supply. Boone County is in for canning on a commercial scale next year. We are going to have a thousand-dollar garden club, and raise vegetables for our thousand-dollar canning club.

The work of the canning clubs has proved to be an important factor in reaching the "foreign born." The State club leader of Rhode Island writes:

Foreign-born children rarely miss a club meeting or a club demonstration. Their parents are always anxious for them to attend and frequently accompany the boys and girls to learn new methods and get practical information which they can understand and use in their homes.

One club in Massachusetts has enrolled 18 foreign-born girls, representing eight nationalities. An Assyrian girl member of this club reports that she alone canned 1,500 jars during the past year. These stories, although incidents in themselves, give a vision of the great opportunities for Americanization through such work.

CLOTHING.

Missouri had 1,291 clothing-club demonstrations in 1919; New York, 1,150; Massachusetts, 858; Michigan, 829; and Colorado, 649.

Community problems: Making garments at home, short cuts in sewing, better selection of clothing, reduction of clothing costs.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Making garments, (2) use of sewing machine; machine darning, (3) keeping clothing costs, (4) selection of wearing apparel, (5) renovating and remodeling garments, (6) renovating and retrimming hats, (7) specializing on one garment for sale, (8) planning and making furnishings for the home.

Number of demonstrators: 11,483 (completed).

Number of clubs: 2,329.

Number of garments and articles made: 70,339.

Value of garments and articles made: \$86,944.

Team demonstrations: 983.

One hundred and eighty-seven teams of young people were trained to give public demonstrations, with a total attendance of 33,933. Some of the demonstrations were: Making of garments, such as aprons, wash dresses, middy blouses; renovating and remodeling

garments, including dyeing and removal of stains; selection of economical, appropriate, and becoming wearing apparel; use of sewing machine, showing how to do machine darning and use attachments.

As the price of clothing has increased, people have been compelled to make clothes at home as well as to make over old garments instead of buying new, ready-made articles. This fact and the need for re-



FIG. 6.—Clothing-club demonstrators play an important part in reducing the family living expenses.

lief garments for war refugees and the Red Cross gave a marked impetus to the clothing-club work.

Until a few years ago, sewing for girls consisted primarily in making samples. Now these clubs make clothing that is healthful, durable, and becoming to the wearer, and show others how to make such

clothing. Many girls made inventories of their wardrobes, estimated the cost of clothing they would need for the next year or two, and set as their goal what they thought they could accomplish in that time. In other clubs, girls showed how to make best use of what was already on hand. To add to the interest of the girls and the mothers in the home, club members were encouraged to make furnishings for their bedrooms such as curtains, bed covers, sheets, pillow cases, towels, and table linen.

A Kansas club girl who entered college during the past year, after telling of her three years' experience, was permitted by the head of the department of clothing and textiles to take the final examination in the first semester's course without making any of the required garments. The grade she received was "good." This club member writes:

I can not begin to tell how much help club work has been to me. It not only gave me credit for a semester's work in clothing, but also created my desire for a college education.

One Michigan club which has completed three years of clothing work is now engaged in a club demonstration including work in household management, care of the home, and home decoration.

There have been some interesting results from the clothing-club work, namely, development of keen interest on the part of professional dressmakers in club leadership; improvement in quality of materials and style of dress of country boys and girls; increased self-respect on part of country boys and girls because of improved quality of garments worn; change in character of materials handled by the country store; increased appreciation of the make of clothes.

COOKING.

Fifteen States participated in cooking-club work. Nebraska had 2,273 members; Oregon, 2,140; New York, 1,913; 7 of the 15 States engaged in the work for the first time in 1919.

Community problems: Poorly planned and prepared meals in the homes, lack of hot lunches at school.

Demonstrations conducted: (1) Use of milk products, (2) planning meals, (3) preparation of food, (4) introduction of hot school lunches.

Number of demonstrators: 4,402 (completed).

Number of clubs: 561.

Work accomplished: 188,802 hot dishes prepared, over 60,000 meals planned and served.

Value: \$50,048.

Team demonstrations: 187 teams of boys and girls gave 1,771 public demonstrations with total attendance of 45,360.

Through cooking-club work, the girls gained experience in purchasing supplies, in selecting foods from the standpoint of health, in preparing and finally in serving attractively the cooked product. One Nebraska club girl writes:

I always disliked the job of setting the table but now that is my favorite work. A nicely arranged table adds much to one's appetite as well as cheerfulness.

The mother of a Massachusetts club member writes:

My daughter has shown great interest in both cooking and other household tasks. She has made 75 per cent of the bread and cake for our family of four and has on several occasions prepared the entire dinner on Sunday. Her work has been pleasing to me and she has learned to do it because she really likes it.

Cooking-club demonstrations are popular among boys. The vice president of the North Brownville Cooking Club of Oregon was a boy. When asked why he joined the cooking club, he replied that the family, including his mother and sisters, during the preceding winter had all been stricken with influenza. It was up to him to prepare the meals. Because of his succession of failures, he felt that the most important thing for him to know for such emergencies in the future was the best methods of good cookery. Another boy, when asked the same question, said that his mother was dead, his father ill, and he was forced to know something about cooking.

Club members demonstrate the use of milk through the preparation of milk dishes, the making of ice cream, and the attractive preparation and serving of cheese dishes. By so doing, other rural people may be led to use more milk and realize its importance as a food.

These clubs in many instances are paving the way for the establishment of permanent home-economics courses in the schools, constituting a demonstration in itself of how club work can reinforce the work of the school.

The cooking clubs in many communities have been successful in introducing hot school lunches into the schools. A large number of such organizations are now known as "hot school lunch clubs." The State club leader of New Jersey writes:

The cooking clubs in New Jersey have functioned during the past winter through the serving of hot dishes at the noon hour in the rural schools, followed by canning in the summer. In this club activity the value of milk used in the preparation of soup and cocoa has been strongly emphasized. In one county of New Jersey where the hot school lunch club work has been going on for two years, a system of comparing the value received is being worked out. The children are being weighed, the amount of sickness is being taken into account; also the grades in comparison with previous years; the added interest in home and school is also being noted.

The State club leader from Michigan writes:

More hot school lunch clubs were organized than ever before, furnishing a ready market for the products of the gardening and canning clubs. Teachers

appreciate the value of the work, especially from the health standpoint. It solves the noon-hour problem in the rural school and establishes a splendid relationship between the teachers and pupils as well as between the school and the home. In many communities the club is the center of community interest.

In Michigan alone, club members prepared over 40,000 of these hot lunches.

If the reports are interpreted aright, it is reasonable to expect that the work of these club activities will be a potent factor in the development of sound and healthy rural boys and girls as well as in the development of more efficient home makers.

FARM AND HOME HANDICRAFT.

In Michigan, 358 members conducted handicraft work; in Nevada 43, Rhode Island 36, Vermont 12. Only four States conducted this work.

Community problems: Lack of convenient equipment for farm and home.

Demonstrations conducted: Include a wide range of materials such as wagon jacks, home canners, fireless cookers, and self-feeders.

Number of demonstrators: 449.

Number of clubs: 56.

Number of articles made: 2,852.

Value of articles: \$2,132.

Team demonstrations: Thirty-seven teams of boys and girls were trained to give public demonstrations. Some of the things demonstrated are the making of useful farm and home equipment, such as self-feeders, fuel boxes, sewing tables, iceless refrigerators, screens, etc.

In a number of States this making of equipment has been included with the more purely agricultural and home-economic projects. In the canning demonstration the making of a home canner is often included; likewise, self-feeders and troughs are part of the swine-club work.

OTHER LINES OF DEMONSTRATION WORK.

The following are projects each of which was conducted in but one or two States and involved a small number of boys and girls: Cotton growing, 14 members; beekeeping, 25; small-grain growing, 31; sweet-potato culture, 4; goat raising, 37; butter making, 18; tomato growing, 8; maple-sugar making, 27; miscellaneous, 950.

BENEFITS TO CLUB MEMBERS.

It is evident that boys' and girls' club demonstrations in 1919 helped materially in the improvement of agriculture and homes in

thousands of communities. But what of the effect on the individual who conducts a demonstration?

Any effort toward improvement of practices must necessarily be an effort toward improvement of people. In all extension work during the past year it has been recognized that permanent progress toward better agriculture and home making is directly dependent upon the kind and amount of leadership developed—that better farming is important only in that it makes possible a better standard of living.

Boys' and girls' club work is a simple yet efficient system for molding rural young people into leaders that will take care of future agriculture and home making. First it interests boys and girls through a community program of work. Then it helps them to carry out the program. This results in their serving the community. The quality of service is improved by providing special means for encouraging and rewarding initiative. Training, information, and a knowledge of sources of information necessary to lead intelligently are requisite parts of the system.

The club demonstration is, then, not simply a means for showing others better methods. Of equal or greater importance are the benefits the members derive from carrying to completion such demonstrations. It was the agency for the advancement of 310,115 boys and girls in 1919. It afforded all of them constructive business experience that will be valuable in any vocation. These young people produced food and clothing valued at \$4,758,062.

Club work has already established many in farming and related businesses on a profitable basis. It has given vision to young people and the initiative to make visions realities. The story of H. G. French, a New Hampshire club member, is representative of club-members' stories. Note the developed interest and increased results from year to year, then the final use of profits:

I enrolled in the potato project. We had the land plowed—a place of tough sprout land, and I grubbed it out with a mattock. Then I bought the seed and fertilizer and paid for them out of my own little bank account—saved from nickels and dimes earned by running errands. Father offered to pay the bills, but I wanted this project to be all my own, and I had confidence enough to put in all my money.

The crop was a success in every way—a good yield of clean, smooth potatoes, not a scabby one in the fifty-odd bushels. (The seed had been treated with corrosive sublimate.) I took second place in the county contest and won several cash prizes on exhibits. Of course, that helped me to sell some stock for seed at a good price.

The next year I planted twice as many potatoes and a piece of field corn besides. My yield was not as high as before, owing to too much rain, but yet I managed to make enough to pay for my time, and I had lots of experience and profit.

The next year I took up pigs and canning, besides keeping on with potatoes and corn. My pen of "Berks" won me a State championship and sweepstakes award at the Eastern States Exposition. Pig-club members may be interested to know that I believe in purebred Berkshires and a self-feeder—a winning combination every time. Of course, pasturage, clean quarters, and plenty of water are also important. That fall I went to college on the profits.

A banker of a Western State remarked recently that if no other good came from club work, that which comes from keeping accurate business records of the demonstrations is well worth the present national, State, and county expenditures for this work.

In practically all of the 33 Northern and Western States there are All-Star Clubs, made up of club members who have conducted demonstration work four years, or who have won State championships. These organizations are beginning to function in the development of leadership.

The county leader of Champaign County, Ill., in speaking of the educational value of club work, says:

The most important result of all was the increased development in leadership among the boys and girls, for work in the organized clubs placed responsibility upon those who never knew it before, and the ability to assume responsibility is the first step toward leadership.

A new Hampshire club member says:

My neighbors seemed to consider me a pig expert, and were always asking me questions about how to feed and care for pigs.

Club work is creating a demand among boys and girls for higher education.

The following figures concerning 45 club champions at the farmers' short course, Delaware College, Newark, December 29, 1919, are an index of this influence: Will go to college, 40, or 88 per cent; to Delaware College and the Women's College, 38, or 84.4 per cent; to Drexel, 2; can not attend, 4; do not know, 1. Similar conditions can be found in many of the States.

In 1919 many former club members became community leaders in the farm bureaus. At the Oregon Agricultural College a 4-H club, consisting of former club members, now students at college, has been organized. These young men and women have three objects: First, to provide means for the continuance of interest of the former members in boys' and girls' club work while attending college; second, to keep in touch with and encourage club members in their home counties; third, to assist in leadership during the summer months when they are at home. All this will prepare them for greater leadership after graduation.

Boys and girls who formerly had no knowledge of existing sources of information now correspond with State colleges of agriculture, the United States Department of Agriculture, and other public institutions to get information. Club work has opened to them the

world of print concerning agriculture and home economics, because they now desire and need facts.

Club work has created the desire among the girl club members to manage and improve rural homes, and has prepared them for the time when they may do so. With so many agencies tending to disintegrate the home as an institution, club work is acting as a timely corrective.

Club work also develops adult leadership, in that the club agents, county and State, work with community committeemen who have charge of demonstrations conducted by young people. In 1919 there



FIG. 7.—Former club members (now students of a State agricultural college) have organized a 4-H club to foster club work in their home communities and train themselves for leadership.

were 10,064 men and women who worked with the boys and girls and received this valuable training.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY.

Whenever farms and homes are improved, and when individuals of a neighborhood function more fully as citizens, it follows that the community as a whole is benefited. But there was in 1919 a betterment of community through junior extension work as a result of purely group activities. The organized club, especially the standard club, has done much to awaken community consciousness, first in the boys and girls, then in the community as a whole.

When a number of boys and girls come together in an organized manner to consider ways and means for carrying on constructive work and when these serious considerations are interwoven with free, wholesome play, a process in community development is taking place that assures a more permanent, happier people, and when such a process takes place in more than 16,000 communities, as it did in 1919, it becomes evident that a remedy has been found for some of the ailments that State and national laws could not hope to cure.

Poultry clubs are marketing eggs cooperatively. Pig clubs have established a single breed in a community. Canning clubs often buy, can, and sell cooperatively. Aside from these regular functions, the club interests itself in community enterprises, such as poisoning ground squirrels and dragging roads. The lesson is being driven home to the more mature people that group activity brings results where individual effort fails.

A director of extension in a central western State recently made the statement that county farm-bureau organizations in that State originated in a boys' and girls' club. This club awakened the community and county to the value of organizing. Other counties watched, then followed. A club member of Sand Hills, N. J., makes this statement:

One of the most marked results of club work is its effect on the community in general. Before the organization of our club there was no intermingling of neighbors. There was nothing which furnished a common interest in the community. Our neighborhood is one of mixed nationalities and different religious denominations, so the church did not afford a common meeting place. Our club seems to have met this need.

LEADERS' SERVICES.

The statements below give the nature and, to a limited degree, the extent of leaders' activities during 1919 in the 33 Northern and Western States:

Number of demonstrations to members.....	11, 317
Attendance, 494,051.	
Number of field meetings conducted.....	12, 799
Attendance, 269,191.	
Number of club festivals conducted.....	1, 153
Attendance, 1,310,281.	
Number of demonstration visits (homes of members).....	100, 543
Number of achievement-day programs conducted.....	2, 001
Number of leaders' conferences.....	2, 845
Number of pieces follow-up literature sent.....	2, 230, 956
Number of club members who attended short courses at agricultural colleges.....	3, 091
Total donations during year.....	\$72, 273
Number of scholarships in agricultural colleges won by club members during year.....	1, 307

PROBLEMS AND OUTLOOK.

Wider use of community program of work.—The boys and girls have manifested great enthusiasm for this work. They have worked hard to achieve results in the various demonstrations. Our failure to more closely coordinate the work of men, women, and boys and girls has lessened the effectiveness of the work. With the program of work in operation in every county, the efforts of the people will not be so widespread, but the results will be greater, due to the combined attack on the common problem. The next few years should see a more general use of the self-determined program of work.

More trained leadership required.—Leadership for the work has come up out of the school of experience. An adequate leadership to fill county club agent positions will be available when the colleges of agriculture and home economics provide special training for young men and women who plan to enter the boys' and girls' club work. The requirements of the work indicate that county club agents should be graduates of a four-year course in agriculture or home economics. Special work in English, psychology, and rural economics are desirable.

Closer cooperation of specialists.—Some specialists have realized the opportunity that is offered by the boys' and girls' clubs for them to extend their work. A fuller appreciation of this by the great body of specialists would do much to secure a wider use of the better practices in agriculture and home economics.

Use should be made of records secured in demonstrations.—The boys and girls as part of their club work keep records of their demonstrations. The demonstration teams have done much to call these records to the attention of the people of the community. However, not enough attention has been given to these records. The demonstration teams could well continue their work during the winter months, presenting to the community an analysis of the results secured in the demonstrations. This analysis should be worked out in cooperation with the extension specialists.

Development of plans for financing the club work.—The general plan of cooperatively financing the county club agents has proved a success. Since 1917 the United States Department of Agriculture and the State colleges of agriculture have been unable to keep pace with the rapid development of the county club agent work. More than 100 county club agents could be placed in as many new counties if funds were available. This indicates a vigorous growth, with an insistent demand from the people in the counties. If the pressure persists, and the indications are that it will, some plan must be worked out to extend the work to the entire 1,500 counties of the North and West.

